

**EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
JULY 25, 2007  
SCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Gail Brown (Chairman), Mary E. Brower (Vice Chairman), Phyllis Snyder (Member), Ann Keen (Member), Elaine Preston (Secretary), Lynn Coine (Member), Roy Kolb (Planning Commission Liaison)

Meeting called to order 7:10 p.m.

**Minutes**

M. Brower motioned to accept the minutes of June 27, 2007 with one spelling correction. L. Coine seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved. 6-0-0

**Public Comment**

Ann Bedrick, from East Nantmeal was present to coordinate final instructions to the volunteers from East Coventry Historical Commission, G. Brown, L. Coine and E. Preston, for the East Nantmeal Chester County Town Tours. Volunteers are to meet at the Church in East Nantmeal at 4:30. G. Brown was given a Tour Guide Manual for the East Nantmeal Chester County Town Tour and E. Preston and L. Coine are going to work at the registration table. The tour is to go on rain or shine.

G. Brown noted we have not heard anything further from other Town Tours, but anticipated we may.

**Presentation**

Mr. William Dougherty, Eagle Scout applicant, and his parents were present at the meeting. Mr. Dougherty presented three (3) proposed sign boards, text and photographs, for comment to the Historical Commission. Mr. Dougherty also shared for view the Breou's Farm Map, East Coventry Township, 1883, he had purchased as part of his research. The sign boards were titled as follows:

1. Canal Workers
2. Color of Canal
3. How the locks system works

Mr. Dougherty had met with Estelle Cremers to discuss the Schuylkill Navigation Company. Mrs. Cremers, co-author of 'Coventry – The Skool Kill District', generously gave Mr. Dougherty permission to use information from this book for his project. It was suggested Mr. Dougherty attend the next Park and Recreation Committee meeting to present his proposal

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Mr. Dougherty has acquired funding for the stands for this project, but has yet to raise funding for approximately \$500.00 for the graphics...

The East Coventry Historical Commission had a lengthy discussion about the possibility of donating \$50.00 or \$100.00 to Mr. Dougherty to help defray the cost of his project.

P. Snyder made a motion for G. Brown to compose a letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting that \$100.00 from the Historical Commission Budget be donated toward Mr. Dougherty's Eagle Scout Project for the graphics. This donation would be based on the historical research and content of Mr. Dougherty's project.

M. Brower seconded the motion

The motion was unanimously approved. 6-0-0

P. Snyder suggested that another Eagle Scout project might be a Historical sign for Fricks Lock. R. Kolb thought that would be a very worthwhile project. M. Brower agreed.

### **Subdivision and Land Development**

#### **Maack Property**

On July 16, 2007, G. Brown requested the Wineberry Estates file from Township Administrative personnel to review correspondence for current status. The file received contained correspondence through May 1, 2007. When G. Brown stated there should be file information to-date as the Historical Commission had received correspondence later than the May 1, 2007 date, Township Administrative personnel responded we would have to provide a specific letter and date. G. Brown retrieved a letter dated June 14, 2007 from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) to Conner and Smith Engineering, engineering representative for Wineberry Estates, and forwarded to the Township. Two additional letters were then provided by the Township dated July 3, 2007 and July 18, 2007.

The July 18, 2007 letter from the PHMC to Conner and Smith states: "You have clarified that "structured manner" means stone wall. As you have indicated, the locations for these stone walls have not been finalized. We concur with the five proposed locations on the north side of Maack Road." "The proposed trees in combination with existing trees and plantings should adequately screen the new construction from the historic buildings of the National Register eligible Kulp Farm."

The Historical Commission is pleased with the ongoing correspondence between Wineberry Estates and the PHMC, but has not seen or reviewed any of the referenced documents. Mr. Roy Kolb, Planning Commission liaison, stated the drawings referenced in the correspondence have not as yet been submitted to the Planning Commission.

G. Brown to forward copies of this correspondence to Mr. L. Tietjen, owner of the Maack Residential property.

#### **Sprint/Spectrum Subdivision**

Sprint/Spectrum (Faulk Tract) made presentation July 2, 2007, to the Board of Supervisors for Conditional Use. The Historical Commission response to the 'Conditional Use' dated January 11, 2007 quoting Zoning Ordinance, Part 14, Section

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1401(G)(9)(10) and (H) requirements was not included in the documents for the 'Conditional Use'. G. Brown requested this document be included in the list of documents relevant to the 'Conditional Use'. After executive session, the Board of Supervisors stated compliance to the above reference sections of the Zoning Ordinance will be included in the 'Conditional Use' requirements.

EBI Consulting has submitted a letter to the East Coventry Historical Commission extending an invitation to review the Sprint Cell Tower project in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. G. Brown to review and report at the next meeting.

Neuman/Ridge Field Estates

Buffering has been shown of the Landscape drawings for Historical Properties on Tax Parcels #18-06-0028 and #18-06-0027, but noted lack of buffering for Tax Parcel #18-06-0023. It is noted that landscape buffering is shown on the back of Lot #4 for the storm water basin on Tax Parcel #18-06-0023. It was noted that there are not plantings around the basin.

R. Kolb announced that Ridge Field Estates agreed to replace big trees 4 to 1 and fence around retention basin.

Discussion Items

E. Preston is to request a copy of charges to the Historical Commission Budget to-date from Township Administration. Budget will be discussed at the next meeting.

M. Brower asked if Zap Digital, Inc. had been paid. E. Preston to verify payment with Township Administrative Personnel.

G. Brown announced that the East Coventry Historical Commission is suspending all but essential work in order to concentrate on the Historic Resource Map and classification of Historic Resources. We have had three people working approximated two hours a week on files, a total of six hours a week we can redirect toward completion of the map. The East Coventry Historical Commission set up two committees: A. Keen, P. Snyder and G. Brown who are going to complete work on the Estelle Cremers and other documented resources for the Historic Resource Map and L. Coine, E. Preston, G. Brown (alternate) who will be classifying historic resources in accordance with Part XII of the Zoning Ordinance. G. Brown is to request and retrieve updated maps from Chester County. G. Brown, stated M. Brower, Vice Chairman, can support these efforts as her work schedule allows.

The Historical Commission also discussed drafting a letter explaining the impact these classifications will have on residents. It is noted historical classification often creates a panic as it is often believed the most rigid requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act are applied to all homes. These requirements apply to those properties which have applied for Federal loans or tax exemption. Otherwise, the local ordinance is the controlling document and in our case, is specific in Part XII of the Zoning Ordinance.

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Per the local Zoning Ordinance, the Historical Commission submits' recommendation only' to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors reviews recommendations and is the deciding factor, much as with the Planning Commission and Subdivision and Land Development requirements. G. Brown stated another township had done an excellent job of addressing this issue and she will retrieve this document. This along with our specific Zoning Ordinance requirements could be used as a basis for subject letter. M. Brower offered to lend her writing and grammatical expertise to this effort. It was noted this document would need to be kept to a minimum in order to keep the weight of the certified letters to the minimum.

R. Kolb volunteered to help committee members with identification of Historic Resources.

The committees are to present a report at the next Historical Commission on the progress of their committees.

### Calendars

G. Brown reported that the Calendars and posters have been distributed throughout the Township.

A. Keen thanked the East Coventry Historical Commission for her calendar. A. Keen was given a calendar in recognition of her beautiful artwork which she has allowed the Historical Commission to use in the 2008 calendar and past calendars.

G. Brown sent a thank-you letter in recognition of their selfless efforts to support Fricks Locks and a complementary 2008 calendar to Paul Frick and Bill Carl.

All complimentary calendars have been paid for through donations.

G. Brown announced that T. Roland and Rose Miller are organizing a meeting at Fricks Locks with various officials. Several dates are being considered, but she has not received confirmation to-date.

G. Brown also noted that the gate at Fricks Locks has finally been closed and the missing chain and lock replaced. The chain and lock have been welded in an effort to deter theft in the future. Thank you to the Chief of Police and the Public Works Department.

### Adjournment

P. Snyder motioned to adjourn the meeting.

M. Brower seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Elaine C. Preston  
Secretary  
East Coventry Township Historical Commission